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VOL. XII

40, OCTOBER 14, 1965

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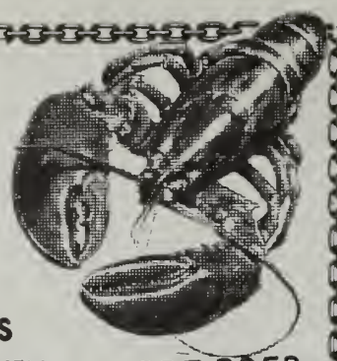

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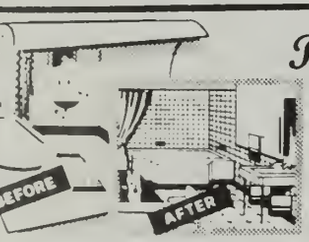

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COVER .. Mattapoisett's pioneer aviator of 1903 The cover pen and ink drawing was done from an old clipping by Clifford Ashley. The original is much smaller and quite faded so we followed the drawing, stroke by stroke, as near as possible to the original but enlarged and clarified. The balloon and the flying machine were included in Ashley's original. Story is in "Years Ago" column by Charles Mendell begining in this issue. Drawing - DCJ

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HOSPITAL DUE SOON

Loren Mosher, Civil Defense Director, has advised the Mattapoisett Board of Selectmen that the Civil Defense Hospital will be arriving in a few weeks. The hospital will be stored at the Mattapoisett Nursing Home until the new elementary school is completed at which time it will be stored in the basement of the Center School. The Big 3 Lumber Company will unload and store the unit. The Civil Defense allows $155. for this work. The refrigeration unit will be stored in the doctor's office of the Center School.

NEW OIL BURNER FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Mattapoisett Fire Department will install a new oil burner at the Fire Station. The expense will come from the Fire Department's budget.

AWARDED TREE CONTRACT

Mr. Marinus VanderPol of Fairhaven submitted the only bid for new trees for Mattapoisett and was awarded the contract by the

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Tree Warden, John Denham. The bid was for $748.

PARKING LOT TO BE STARTED

Manuel Nunes, Highway Surveyor, has been requested to proceed to make an additional parking area at the Hiller's Cove Town Beach.

PUBLIC WORKS HIGHWAY HELP

A letter has been received from the Department of Public Works Director, Francis W. Sargent. He advised the Mattapoisett Selectmen that under Section 5, Chapter 679, the town has been allotted $11,243.88 from a $15,000,000 State fund for highway projects approved by the Department of Public Works.

GRANGE MEETING

The bi-monthly meeting of Mattapoisett Subordinate Grange was held last Thursday night. Honored guests escorted to the right of the master were Gerald Braley, master of

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Acushnet; Mrs. Ann Cleveland of O-Ne-Set, Manuel Roderick, Jr. of Fairhaven and Arletta Bean of Marion Granges.

It was voted to send the overseer, Barry Denham to the State Grange Session to be held in Springfield October 26,27 and 28 as alternate delegate for this Grange.

It was also voted to donate the use of the hall to the organizations committee on October 23rd for the auction and food sale they are conducting for the United Fund in Mattapoisett. Mr. Harry Locke is general chairman and Mrs. Harold Banks is chairman for the organizations.

Notes were read by Mrs. Kellish from Mrs. Charles Avilla and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Johnson of West Springfield. Mrs. Rebecca Downing, chaplain, received the gift of a decorated cake made by Mrs. Cora Smith, and a box of candy was presented to the executive committee for having the most corresponding officers as their guests.

Mrs. Edith Johansen presided as lecturer and presented the lecturer's march prize to William H. Winslow.

The program was presented by the assistant steward, William Hinckley who gave a most interesting talk with slides of his trip to the Holy Land this summer. It will certainly be a memorable experience for him.

The pianist, Walter Caswell, is plan-

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ning the program for the next meeting, Thursday, October 21st.

Delicious homemade cookies and coffee were served by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Furtado and Mrs. Edward Toolis.

Guests were present from Fairhaven, Acushnet, Marion, O-Ne-Set, West Wareham and New Bedford.

AMERICAN HOME GROUP TO TOUR TV STATION

The American Home Group of the Mattapoisett Woman's Club will have a guided tour of New Bedford's TV Station, Channel 6, on Tuesday, October 19th. The tour, lasting 45 minutes, will start at 1 P.M., and mothers with school children can plan to attend as they will be home before school is dismissed.

The tour is open to all members of the Woman's Club and those planning to attend are asked to call Mrs. Albert Norlander, co-chairman. The group will meet at 12:20 P.M. at the Congregational Church, Mattapoisett on the day of the tour and will travel to New Bedford together.

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ALCYONE CHAPTER MEETING

Alcyone Chapter, No. 122, O.E.S. will meet Thursday, October 14th, at 7:45 P.M. in the Masonic Temple, Marion. A skit, "Ladies' Night" will be presented by the men, and a Parcel Post Auction will be held after the meeting.

Thimble Club will meet Monday, October 18th, at 7:30 P.M. with Mrs. Joseph Wright, School Street, Marion.

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NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH WEEK

National School Lunch Week will be celebrated October 10-16th. Last year the total food bill came to over $950 million dollars

The staff at Mattapoisett Center School served 54,130 children's lunches with 2,046 of these being served free of charge to needy children. The cafeteria also served 3,564 adult lunches and for the special milk program 24,487 one-half pints of milk with 192 of these being given to other needy children.

JUNIOR GRANGE MEETING

The Mattapoisett Junior Grange held its bi-monthly meeting Friday night with William Sylvia in the chair. To complete the corps of 1966 officers the following officers were elected: Frank Wheeler, flag bearer; Paula Roberts, Pomona; Harlene Fearing, Flora; and Cheryl Ann Randall, Ceres. The installation of officers will take place in November.

It was voted to omit the Friday, October 22nd meeting due to the United Fund Drive auction the next day.

A discussion on Junior Day at the State Grange session at Springfield on October 27th was held in regards to the master, overseer and assistant matron having transportation, as they are to be there at 10 A.M. A tour of interest and a luncheon is conducted by several Deputies of the State Grange before the afternoon program.

The lecturer's program was square dancing with Charles Dexter as caller and Audrey Davis at the piano. Refreshments of cookies, lemonade and punch were served by Joseph and John Alves.

SYMPHONIC BAND

The Regional Symphonic Band continued rehearsals for its opening concert of the fourth season on November 7th. At a meeting of the Regional Symphonic Band Committee on Wednesday evening, plans were discussed for widening the circle of patrons of the band. The

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goal set by the committee was raising the number of patrons to 300. Committees in Fairhaven, Marion, Mattapoisett, New Bedford and Rochester have already commenced work in contacting friends of music in the area.

Years Ago

By C. M.

62 Years Ago -- 1903

Only a few older people in Mattapoisett can recall that at the turn of the century an airplane inventor lived in town and constructed two flying machines which attracted much attention but unfortunately refused to fly. Those were the years when the Wright Brothers were spending days and weeks, months and years, in experiment after experiment to invent a machine that would carry man through the air. The Wright Brothers were the first to succeed, but in both the United States and European nations a handful of men with faith--shrugging off the scorn and the indifference of the mass--labored with mounting excitement to make the great dream come true.

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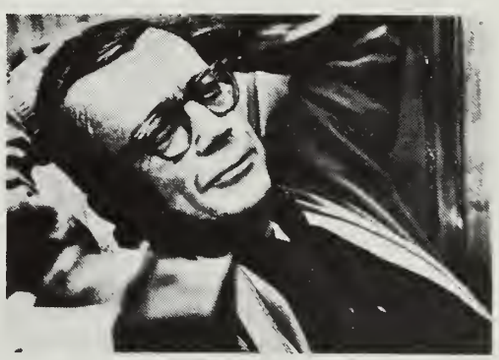

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One such inventor was a farmer named Nate Oliver who lived on his farm on Oliver's Lane, the dirt road that branches west off the Mattapoisett Neck Road where the Neck Road first comes to the marshes. If his proposed flying machine sounds a trifle cockeyed, remember that many of the early attempts seem just as amusing to present day eyes.

A reporter for the New Bedford Standard, in an interview with Nate in 1903, only nine months before the Wright Brothers succeeded at Kitty Hawk, had this to say:

"After much exhaustive study, Nathan Oliver, a farmer, who lives on Mattapoisett Neck, concludes that he has arrived at a point where he is prepared to promise that he can build an airship that will not only sail through the air, but it will be able to stay there as long as the strength of the genius who controls the mechanism holds out. Mr. Oliver is a busy farmer, and he has but little time to devote to a project that does not promise an immediate return on his investment. He is an inventive genius and has patented several little household articles, but about a year ago his mind turned to the subject of flight through the air.

"He is an ardent believer in the theory long since advanced that man will yet become the master of the upper regions as well as he has mastered the problems that are to be found on the earth and those under the earth. Mr. Oliver works on the problem in his spare moments and as yet he has accomplished but little that can be seen; the rest is in his brain.

"The only portion of the airship that has been constructed as yet is the canopy that is to be the sustaining power of the ship when it has been raised from the earth. This is in the shape and about the size of an ordinary umbrella only it is made flat, while an umbrella is like a dome The edges are scalloped the same as in the rainy day contrivance. Mr. Oliver is not satisfied that this is the right form and he thinks now that he will reconstruct it and have the canopy made in a rectangular shape, its length greater than its width.

"His present canopy is made of ordinary umbrella wire and the wires are covered with Holland drilling. Mr. Oliver's first intention was to utilize this top only as a sustaining powe when the airship was raised in the air, but with the rectangular top he hopes to use it as a means

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of ascending. He thinks that the top can be controlled from the car below so that it can be slanted and thus aid the controller in the way he wishes to go.

"The inventor would tell but little about his theory of the manner in which the propelling part of the ship is going to be made. 'I am working on the bird theory,' he said, 'for that to my mind is the only one from which practical results are to be obtained. If nature has fixed things so that a bird can fly through the air I do not see why the inventive genius of man should not think up some similar contrivance.'

"Mr. Oliver talks very entertainingly of the efforts made by other inventors in his line. He knows all about the methods employed by the Brazilian balloonist and the reason why he failed in making the trip around the Eiffel tower in Paris. 'What is needed,' he said, 'is some power by which the ship can be propelled. It is easy enough to go through the air for a short distance,' he says, 'but all the previous efforts have failed because there was not a power that could be depended on to last for any length of time.'

"My machine will be propelled by a contrivance similar to that of a bicycle. I shall have pedals on it, and as long as these are kept in motion I do not think there will be any trouble in staying in the air. By slanting my canopy I can rise to any height desired, and when I want to descend all that I will have to

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do is to pedal slower and keep the canopy drawn flat. This will act as a parachute. The ship will have a rudder, and the steering gear that controls this I can work with my hands.'"

Nate went on to talk knowingly about the problems involved in flight and the causes of failures of those whose recent attempts had been unsuccessful, adding, "'but with me I can

Continued on Page 12

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ROCHESTER BOWLING LEAGUE

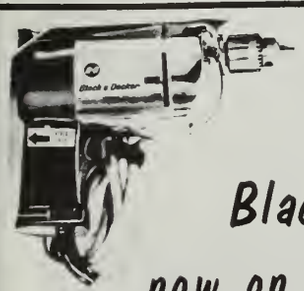
Herbs T.V. put on a home demonstration for the benefit of Hartley Saw Mill in the Rochester Bowling League. Herb Snell's 367 gave the T.V. Shop all three points with John Cebula picking up a 361 for the Mill.

Rob Jefferson tossed a 192 single and a 418 triple as Knotty Pine Cafe took two points from Lloyds Market. Eddie Graham paced the losers with a 333. A 387 three by Ed Figuerido led Hillers Garage to a 2 to 1 upset of Lawrence's Poultry Farm. Art Tripp rolled a 370 for Lawrence.

Back to back 374 triples by John Hayes and Julie Weigel salvaged one point for Sturtevant & Hook in their match with Hartley's Garage. The Garage took two points as Joe Pare banged out a fine 386.

HARVEST FOOD SALE

A Harvest Food Sale will be held by the Friendly Circle of Rochester North Congregational Church at 1 P.M. Saturday, October 16, in the meeting room of Rochester Fire Station, Hartley Road. On sale will be homemade pastries, baked beans, salad, homemade rolls, breads and candy. Also available will be fruits and vegetables. Featured will be white elephant and handiwork gift tables.



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YEARS AGO Continued from Page 10

go as far as my strength will carry me. I also propose to have wings on the sides of my machine that will move as those of a bird. Just how these will be constructed I wouldn't want to say, but I have worked the problem out in my head, and I think there will be no trouble in surmounting this difficulty.'"

The first time the reporter called, Nate wasn't home. His wife refused to show the visitor the half-constructed machine, explaining she had done so once and her husband had ordered her not to do so again and furthermore "not to meddle in his affiars." She did tell the reporter that Nate was using her curtain cloth for the covering of his canopy, "and that the whole house was cluttered up with his tools."

As Nate grew enthusiastic he told of his plan to take his brain-child to the exhibition of would-be flying machines in Indianapolis. Above all, he expanded on his dream to take it, if successful, to the big exhibition at St. Louis "where the management has offered a large sum of money to be divided among those who make successful flights through the air."

Next week: The first attempt.

(HELP: I have the clipping about the first attempt, but I can't find my copy of the clipping where Nate tried to take off from his barn roof. If anyone has this, I would appreciate it if he would send it registered air mail (I will pay postage) direct to C. Mendell at Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida; or hand it to Donald Jason at the Presto. Thanks.)

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FIRE PREVENTION WEEK PROGRAM HELD

On Thursday, October 7th, at the Mattapoisett Center School, closing exercises were

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WHIST PARTY

St. Rose of Lima Church, Rochester will have a whist party Saturday, October 16th.

A rummage sale will be held on Saturday, October 30th, from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.

WHIST PARTY

The Monday night whist party of the Mattapoisett Grange will be held Monday, October 18th, at 8 P.M in the Grange Hall. Mr. Otto Kellish and Mrs. Gladys Pearson will be in charge.

LIONS CLUB MEETING

Mattapoisett Lions Club will meet this Wednesday, October 13th, at 7 P.M. at the Harbor Beach Club. Guest speaker will be Art Hogan of the New Bedford Social Security Office. He will speak on the latest developments in the Medicare program. October is membership month for the club.

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held in the second annual Junior Fire Marshal program. This is a National Program of the Hartford Insurance Company, sponsored locally by Giles Dunn.

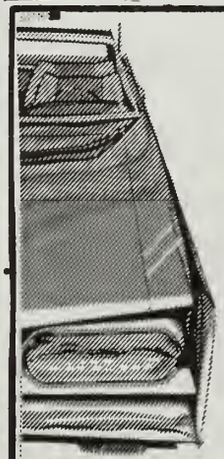
At an assembly on Monday pupils in grades 3, 4 and 5 were given home fire prevention reports with which to check their own homes. At the assembly on Thursday the children who had completed the home report and had it signed by a parent were presented a Junior Fire Marshal badge and Fireman's hat by Mattapoisett Fire Chief Kenneth Wood and Mr. Dunn.

Ninety per cent of the children completed the forms. Mrs. Linda Tilden's grade three, Mrs. Rheta Tuttle's grade three and Mrs. Priscilla Carter's grade four were jointly presented the Junior Fire Marshall Flag in recognition of 100% returns of the home check lists.

After the assembly the children were taken to the playground where two fire trucks from the Mattapoisett Fire Department were on display.

ORRHS STUDENT HONORED ON NMSQT

One student at Old Rochester Regional High School has been honored with a letter



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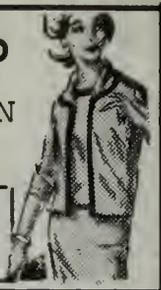

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of commendation for his high performance on the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (NMSQT) given last Spring. He is among 38,000 students across the nation recognized for scoring in the top two percent of students who will complete high school in 1966. The commended student ranks just below the 14,000 semi-finalists announced last month.

Donald N. Gavin, the school's principal, has announced that the commended student is Robert A. Lawrence, Hartley Road, Rochester.

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HARVEST SALE

Thimble Club of Alcyone Chapter #122, O.E.S. will have a "Harvest Sale", Saturday, October 16, at 3 P.M. in the Congregational Chapel, Main Street, Marion.

Mrs. Frederic Bacon and Mrs. William Winters are the general co-chairmen. Table chairmen are Mrs. Roy Turner, food and candy; Mrs. Jesse Clouter, handwork; Mrs. Joseph Wright, Christmas table.

A ham and bean supper will be served at 6:30 by members of the Cane Club and the Thimble Club. Mr. Stanley Ennis and Mr. John Souza of the Cane Club, and Mrs. Frank Flower of the Thimble Club are in charge of the supper. Mr. William Winters is chairman of the supper ticket committee. Three door prizes, a quilt, an electric knife, and 25 gallons of gasoline will be given away at the supper. Mr. Franklin Winters is chairman of the prize ticket committee.

"THE COACH WITH THE SIX INSIDE" AT DHS

Members of the Fine Arts Group of the Mattapoisett Woman's Club interested in attending the production of "The Coach with the Six Inside" and forming a dinner group in advance will contact Miss Lydia LeBaron Walker. This travelling presentation of a comedy, to be presented Thursday, October 22nd, at 8:30 P.M. in the Dartmouth High School and sponsored by the Humanities Division of SMTI, is be Jean Erdman from the internationally famous novel

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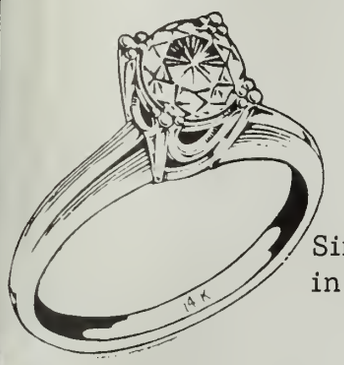

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by James Joyce. The production has been seen with the same cast and musicians in Paris, France; Dublin, Ireland; Tokyo, Japan; Spoleto, Italy and on many College campuses in the U. S.A. In 1963 "The Coach with the Six Inside" was presented the Obei Award for the best off-Broadway production. There is no admission charge for the October 22nd event. Music accompanies the performance, played by Teiji-Ito and Gengi Ito and Peter Berry. The cast includes Jean Erdman, Anita Dangler, Michael Prince and Van Dexter. Costumes are by Gail Ryan. The very modern presentation will be much discussed, and should be of great local interest to members of the Fine Arts Group.

AVERY LECTURE

The Avery Committee of Greater New Bedford is sponsoring a lecture, "The Total World," by Dr. Avery, illustrated by color slides, on October 18th, at 8:00 P.M., in the lobby of the Y. W. C. A., 66 Spring Street,

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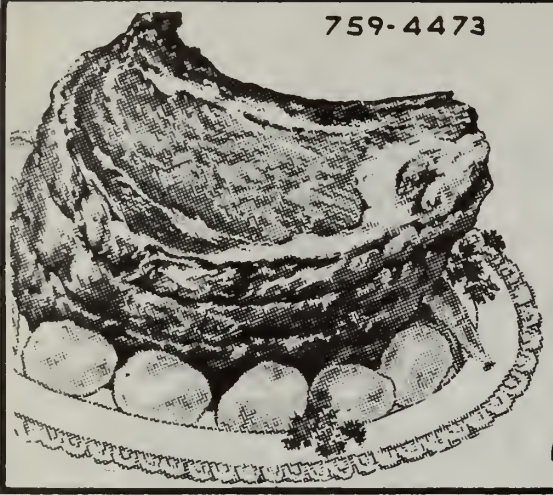

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